

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to obviate the examiner's objections thereto and/or to further clarify the concepts of the present invention. Claims 1-4 and 6 still are pending.

More particularly, claims 1 and 2 have been amended to recite that the flame-sprayed aluminum alloy has a thickness of 10 to 500  $\mu\text{m}$ . Support for this amendment may be found on line 11 of page six of the subject specification. Entry of these amendments are respectfully requested.

It is submitted that this amendment to claims 1 and 2 help to distinguish these claims over the teachings of the cited patent to Mori et al. In particular, this recitation, among others, distinguishes the subject claims over the casting comparative example of the Mori et al patent in which a coarse Si (20 $\mu\text{m}$ ) is disclosed.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the subject application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, the undersigned hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to Deposit

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Account No. 01-2340, along with any other additional fees which may be required with respect to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP



Donald W. Hanson  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 27,133

Atty. Docket No. 991304  
Suite 1000, 1725 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
(202) 659-2930  
DWH/rab



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